

Kearsley Urban District Council

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1966

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
M.O.H.

F. BROOK, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Public Health Inspector.

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Councillor W. J. J. RATCLIFFE

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Mrs. B. K. RYAN

Members:

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

F. BROOK, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Retired 30.6.66)

Public Health Inspector

A. CASHMORE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Technical Assistant

W. MORT

Clerk

Miss M. LINGARD

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members of the Kearsley Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I present the Annual Report on the health of the Urban District for the year 1966.

The Vital Statistics for the present year and the preceeding nine years are given in Table 1. The Birth Rate remains high and is better than the 17.7 for the country as a whole. A most pleasing achievement is the low Infant Mortality rate of 9.1, the lowest for several years and well below the national figure of 19.0.

Infectious diseases are now relatively unimportant. Measles still flourish in mild outbreaks every two or three years but the advent of measles prophylactic is imminent and then this disease like Diptheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis will almost disappear.

There is little of note in the death returns with heart disease as ever claiming most victims. However we are living longer as the years go by and of the 136 deaths there were 29 who survived into their 80th year.

TABLE I.

YEAR	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Death Rate	15.7	15.2	14.3	13.5	15.5	16.1	14.5	15.3	12.2	14.0
Birth Rate	13.5	16.0	13.5	17.2	16.1	15.8	18.8	21.9	21.8	21.2
Infantile Mortality Rate ...	57.0	12.0	21.4	22.5	36.1	42.7	27.6	47.4	22.8	9.1
Still Birth Rate	34.0	29.2	14.1	16.6	6.0	12.0	16.3	27.6	13.5	13.5

Causes of Death:										
Heart Disease	(17) 57	(25) 42	(20) 37	(30) 47	(18) 40	(10) 27	(10) 35	(13) 42	(11) 37	(14) 37
Cancer	(3) 18	(5) 25	(8) 23	(4) 20	(5) 18	(7) 21	(3) 14	(6) 30	(6) 24	(6) 28
Vascular lesions of nervous system	26	25	25	13	16	27	28	21	10	21
Bronchitis	6	4	6	7	10	5	4	5	7	13
Pneumonia	2	5	7	4	2	8	8	4	Nil	7

The figures in brackets are those of Coronary Thrombosis and Lung Cancer.

TABLE II.

DETAILS OF PEOPLE AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER

	65—70	71—75	76—80	81—85	Over 85	Total
January	—	2	—	1	2	5
February	1	1	2	1	2	7
March	1	4	2	1	—	8
April	—	3	2	3	—	8
May	1	5	1	—	—	7
June	—	7	3	—	—	10
July	1	1	—	3	—	5
August	1	2	3	—	1	7
September	1	5	4	1	1	12
October	1	—	1	—	2	4
November	1	2	1	3	1	8
December	3	1	2	6	1	13
	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	11	33	21	19	10	94
	=	=	=	=	=	=

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area—1,728 statute acres (approx.).

Population—Estimated June, 1965—11,300.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Births:	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	207	123	84
Illegitimate	13	9	4

Still Births:			
Legitimate	3	1	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—

	Kearsley	England & Wales
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	21.2	17.7
Still Births per 1,000 total births	13.5	15.4

	Total	Males	Females
Deaths	136	73	63

	Kearsley	England & Wales
Death Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	14.0	11.7

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth Nil

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:

	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil

	Kearsley	England & Wales
Infant Mortality Rate:		

(All infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births)	9.1	19.0
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Perinatal Mortality Rate:		
(Per 1,000 total births)	17.9	26.3

Maternal Mortality Rate:		
(Per 1,000 total births)	Nil	0.26

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	28
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1966

Vascular lesions of Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Heart Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cancer of lung and bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
												136

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a list of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year 1966:—

Disease	No.
Scarlet Fever	8
Dysentery	8
Measles	66
Pneumonia (all forms)	5
Erysipelas	2
Whooping Cough	2

Cases removed to Hospital from the district:—

Pneumonia	3
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Tuberculosis—Cases Notified:—

Respiratory	3
--------------------	---

The treatment of all cases of tuberculosis is undertaken by the County Council.

FOOD POISONING

During the year there were two cases of Food Poisoning reported.

SCARLET FEVER

Eight cases of Scarlet Fever were reported during the year, and all of these were nursed at home.

DIPHTHERIA

For the twentieth year in succession there were no cases of Diphtheria.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The bacteriological examination of sputum is undertaken by the Lancashire Tuberculosis Committee.

The bacteriological examination of milk and water samples and of pathological specimens is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infirmary.

WATER SUPPLY

Bolton Corporation having merged with Irwell Valley Water Board as from the 1st April, 1963, is now the sole source of supply for the whole of the district.

The Chemical Analysis and Bacteriological examinations are now given collectively for the areas previously supplied by Bolton Corporation Waterworks, Irwell Valley Water Board and Bacup Corporation Water Undertaking. These show that the quality and quantity is satisfactory.

There are four houses, with a population of 10, in the outlying district known as Giant's Seat, dependent on well water, which is not a connected supply.

								<i>Bolton Corp.</i>
No. of bacteriological examinations of raw water	...							673
Results	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory
No. of chemical analyses				...	...	...	...	12
Results	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory

*Water going into supply where treatment
is installed:—*

No. of bacteriological examinations	...	...	...					1,641
Results	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory
No. of chemical analyses				...	...	...	...	18
Results	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory
Action taken in respect of any form of contamination	...							No contam'tion
Liability to plumbo-solvent action	...	...	...					None

All dwelling houses in the district, except for four, are supplied from public water mains direct to the houses.

HOUSING

Private enterprise built 124 houses during the year. There is not in the urban district an acute shortage of housing accommodation, and the housing list is now mainly composed of people desiring houses better placed and with better amenities than those which they at present occupy.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

	Houses	Flats	Bungalows
(1) By the local authority ...	19	—	—
(2) By other local authorities ...	—	—	—
(3) By other bodies or persons ...	124	—	—

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	82
(b)	No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	188
(2)	Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which:- Demolition, Clearance or Closing orders have been made (at any time).	77
(3)	No. of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit ...	74

2. Houses Demolished:—

In Clearance Areas:—

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	5	89	29
(2) Houses included by bad arrangement, etc.	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
Not in Clearance Areas:—			

(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
--	---	---	---

3. Unfit Houses Closed:—

Number

(1) Under Section 16(4), 17(1), and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	2	3	2
(2) Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—	—

4. Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in which Defects were remedied:—

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(1) After informal action by local authority ...	7	—
(2) After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts	14	—
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	—	9
(3) Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—

5. Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 and House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959:—

Standard Grants:—

Action during year:—	<i>No. of dwellings or other buildings affected</i>
(i) Applications submitted to local authority	1
(ii) Applications approved by local authority	1
(iii) Work completed	2

The Council also makes loans under the above provisions for the construction, acquisition, improvement and repair of houses.

6. Housing Conditions:—

Approximately 30 per cent. of the houses in Kearsley may be classed as old, 19 per cent. as medium and 51 per cent. as modern.

(i) In hand at end of year:—

33 Bungalows.

NOTICES

Twenty-three preliminary notices and fourteen statutory notices were served during the year.

HOUSE REFUSE SCAVENGING

Statement showing the number of receptacles emptied during the year:—

Ashbins	...	...	...	...	185,699
Pails	...	...	...	...	75
Total loads removed	...	...	...	...	2,206

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping within the district. This method continues to be most satisfactory.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The sanitary accommodation of the district at the end of the year was as follows:—

Fresh water closets	...	...	...	4,112
Waste water closets	...	...	...	43
Ashbins	...	...	...	4,308
Pails	...	...	...	2

SALVAGE

The collection and sale of salvage continues to be successful. During the year under review the combined weight of salvage collected was 158 tons 18 cwts. 3 qtrs, made up as follows:—

			T.	C.	Q.
Waste Paper	...	...	131	7	1
Kitchen Waste	...	...	11	5	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	16	6	0

The total value was £1,236-14-1.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Drainage is partly on the combined and partly on the separate system. The following summary shows how the sewage is dealt with:—

Sewage Works.	Method of Treatment.
Clammerclough	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Main Outfall, Kearsley Green	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Ringley	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Prestolee	Detritus tanks, aeration tanks, humus tanks and storm tanks.

At Horridge Brook and Unity Brook the sewage is lifted by automatic ejectors into sewers connected with the Main Outfall Works.

The new works of the Bolton & District Joint Sewerage Board were officially opened in June, 1964.

ICE CREAM

There are now 29 shops in the urban district registered for the sale of ice cream.

Four samples of ice cream were procured and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infirmary, for bacteriological examination, and the results were satisfactory.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The County Council is the authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

A total of 42 samples were obtained comprising 17 milks (of which two were Channel Islands milk) and 25 others as follows:-

2 Ice Cream	1 Aspirin Tablets
2 Ice Lollies	1 Glycerin
3 Whiskey	1 Sauce
1 Brandy	1 Lard
1 Gin	1 Flour Confectionery
1 Apples	1 Nemluta Tablets
1 Self-raising flour	1 Saluvic Tablets
1 White pepper	1 Beef Sausage
1 Gravy browning	1 Pork Sausage
1 Vinegar	1 Rum
1 Liquid paraffin	

I give below details of those samples upon which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:—

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action taken
1 Formal milk	Freezing point indicated 1.1% extraneous water	Producer cautioned and further sample obtained.
1 Informal milk	Freezing point indicated 1.3% extraneous water	„ „
1 Formal milk	Freezing point indicated 1% extraneous water	„ „

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND BAKEHOUSES

During the year sixteen visits were paid to factories and workplaces, and fifty-nine visits to Bakehouses.

The premises were in a satisfactory condition.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

There were no cases of bed bugs found during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

One man is engaged solely on this work.

Two sewer maintenance treatments have been carried out during the year.

The following action relating to rodent control has also been carried out:—

	Type of Property	
	Non Agricul- tural	Agricul- tural
(a) No. of properties in district	4,548	100
(b) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification:	100	—
(c) No. of (b) infested by - rats	86	—
mice	14	—
(d) Total number of properties inspected for rats and / or mice for reasons other than notification	30	—
(e) No. of (d) infested by - rats	10	—
mice	—	—

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1st January, 1966, to 31st December, 1966

Visits to Infectious Diseases	10
Visits to Property Under Notice	188
Visits to Factories and Workplaces	16
Visits to Bakehouses	59
Visits to Shops	90
Interviews with Owners, Builders, Architects, etc.	30
Inspections of Drains, etc., and Works in Progress	12
General visits—no nuisances	788
Smoke Control Area	240
	1,433

Housing inspection still forms a most important part of the Health Department and progress goes on in the demolition of unfit houses, (77 in 1966) and the erection of new houses (143 in 1966).

The help and encouragement afforded me by the Chairman and members of the Council and the loyalty and co-operation of the staff of my own and other departments has always been my good fortune, and I am indeed grateful to them.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959

PART I OF THE ACT

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises		Numbers of			Occu- piers
		Number on Register	Inspec- tions	Written notices	prosecuted
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	Nil	Nil
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	17	8	Nil	Nil
(iii)	Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
		—	—	—	—
	Total	19	10	Nil	Nil

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	6	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S. 2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	6	6	Nil	Nil	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Out-work

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	Section 110		Section 111		
		No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Engaged in the manufacture of paper hats	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

